

- August 19. Transvaal Government made fresh proposals to Great Britain offering a five years' franchise, a share for Uitlanders in the election of President, and increased representation for the gold fields to the extent of eight seats. The conditions attached were (1) That Great Britain abandon her claim to suzerainty. (2) That she pledge herself never again to intervene in Transvaal affairs, and (3) That she concede arbitration.
- August 28. British Government replied declining to consider the conditions proposed, but renewed proposal for another conference.
- September 2. Transvaal Government acceded to proposal for another conference on basis of abrogation of British suzerainty and recognition of the Transvaal as a Sovereign International State.
- September 12. Secretary of State for the Colonies sent despatch to Transvaal Government proposing five years' franchise, increased representation and use of English language in Volksraad, the suzerainty question to be left *in statu quo*.
- September 17. Transvaal Government replied, withdrawing all former offers and proposing Joint Commission of Inquiry to consider the whole case from the beginning.
- September 22. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain notified President Krüger that the Imperial Government intend to consider the situation anew and to formulate new proposals.
- September 29. The Volksraad of the Orange Free State resolved to stand by the Transvaal.
- October 3. Mr. Chamberlain sent cablegram to Governor General of Canada expressing the high appreciation of the Imperial authorities of the signal exhibition of patriotic spirit of the people of Canada shown by offers to serve in South Africa, and accepting the same; asked the Government to give to all who have offered to raise volunteers the Imperial Government's decision.
- October 5. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain stated to President Krüger that on account of the refusal of the Transvaal to consider former proposals the Imperial Government will formulate new proposals.
- October 10. Transvaal Government sent an ultimatum to the British Government complaining of the latter's 'unlawful intervention in the internal affairs of this republic in contravention of the London Convention of 1884,' and demanded that (1) all points of difference be settled by arbitration or other amicable means; (2) All troops on the Transvaal border to be instantly withdrawn; (3) All reinforcements of troops which have arrived in South Africa since June 1, 1899, be removed, the Transvaal agreeing to make no attack upon British possessions in Africa pending further negotiations and agreeing also to withdraw its forces from the borders; (4) British troops now on the high seas not to be landed in any part of South Africa. The Transvaal Government stated further that an answer must be made by the British Government on or before October 11, at 5 p.m., otherwise the Transvaal Government will regard the action as a formal declaration of war. British Government replied to the ultimatum that the demands of the Transvaal Government 'are such as Her Majesty's Government deem it impossible to discuss.'
- October 11. Transvaal Government issued formal declaration of war.
- October 12. Boers invaded British territory in three columns through Botha's Pass, Laing's Nek and from Wakkerstroom. They also intercepted an armoured train between Vryberg and Mafeking and killed fifteen British.
- October 15. Earl Minto sent cablegram:—'Much pleasure in telling you (Mr. Chamberlain) that my Government offers 1,000 infantry for South Africa.'
- October 16. Imperial Government accepted Canada's offer; Chamberlain expressing great pleasure of Her Majesty's Government on receiving Canadian Government's offer. Canadian Government issue militia order for 1,000 volunteers.
- October 21. New Zealand contingent sailed for South Africa.
- October 28. Victoria, Australia, contingent sailed for South Africa.
- October 30. Steamship *Sardinian* sailed from Quebec with the first contingent of Canadian troops—fifty-seven officers and 1,224 men, amid great and general popular enthusiasm. (Arrived at Cape Town, November 29.)
- November 1. South Australia contingent sailed.
- November 2. Earl of Minto cabled that Government of Canada offers to send a second contingent. This offer was at first (November 7) declined with thanks.
- November 3. Queensland's contingent sailed.
- December 18. Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced through the press that British Government had accepted the offer of a second contingent.
1900. January 11. Lord Strathcona offered 500 men as a special service corps of Mounted Rifles for war in Africa.
- January 13. Offer accepted by Secretary of War.
- January 15. Kimberley relieved.